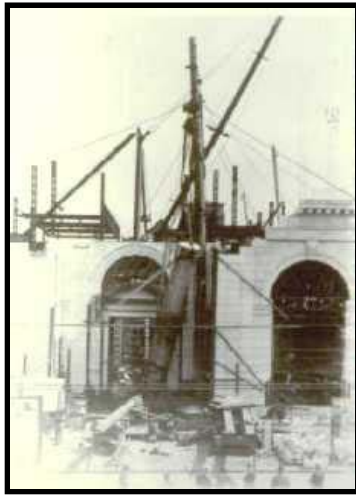


State Savings Bank

151 West Fort Street

Alternate name: Silvers

Local	✓	8/5/83
State	✓	1/8/81
State Marker	✓	6/9/82
National	✓	3/19/82



State Savings Bank under construction c.1900



Historic overview:

The old State Savings Bank building stands on ground that was included in the stockade which surrounded Fort Lernoult, later called Fort Shelby, the English fort that was erected in 1778. The land was also part of the Military Reserve, which came into the possession of the Government when the fort was surrounded by the British in 1796. It remained in the government's hands until the 1820s. The State Savings Bank was organized in 1883, and purchased the site on the corner of Fort and Shelby in 1898. By then it was already the largest bank in Detroit. A pre-eminent Beaux-Arts architectural firm from New York City was constructed the marble Neo Classical building in 1900. The area of Fort and Congress had become the financial district of Detroit by that time, and has remained the center of banking in the city.

In 1907, the Peoples Savings Bank merged with the State Savings Bank to form Peoples State Bank. By 1915, Detroit architects Donaldson and Meier were commissioned to design a harmonious addition that more than doubled the original size of the building. Peoples State also participated in the largest bank merger of the time in 1927, becoming Peoples Wayne County Bank, which dissolved during the Depression. The next building inhabitant would be Edsel Ford's Manufacturers Bank.

The State Bank building had been in continuous banking use for 80 years until the structure was acquired by 151 Partnership for use by Silvers, Inc., and office supply company. This firm has sensitively rehabilitated the structure for use as an office supply showroom without altering its important architectural features.

